| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-2975Responded to: 06 December 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## - The number/ headcount of Special Constables by Division for the previous 5 financial years.

For the number of special constables per the past year financial year please see table 1 below.

Table 1

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Financial year** | **Number of special constables** |
| 2019-2020 | 511 |
| 2020-2021 | 459 |
| 2021-2022 | 448 |
| 2022-2023 | 408 |
| 2023-2024 | 383 |

## - The current number of Special Constables with personal issue mobile devices by Division.

For the current number of Special Constables with personal issue mobile devices by Division please see table 2 below.

Table 2

| **Division** | **Number of special constables with a mobile device**  |
| --- | --- |
| A | 45 |
| C | 17 |
| D | 26 |
| E | 38 |
| G | 25 |
| J | 18 |
| K | 6 |
| L | 5 |
| N | 23 |
| P | 15 |
| Q | 8 |
| U | 24 |
| V | 14 |
| SCD | 5 |
| OSD | 7 |
| Total | 276 |

## - The current number of Special Constables with personal issue handheld Airwave by Division.

For the current number of Special Constables with airwave devices by Division please see table 3 below.

Table 3

| **Division**  | **Number of special constables with Airwave devices** |
| --- | --- |
| A | 0 |
| C | 26 |
| D | 1 |
| E | 23 |
| G | 7 |
| J | 15 |
| K | 6 |
| L | 3 |
| N | 12 |
| P | 25 |
| Q | 1 |
| U | 0 |
| V | 4 |
| SCD | 1 |
| OSD | 5 |
| Total | 129 |

## - Budget vs Actual Spend of capital allocation for Special Constables for previous 5 financial years.

There is no specific capital allocation dedicated solely to Special Constables. Instead, funding related to Special Constables is incorporated within broader budgets covering a range of areas, such as divisional support, equipment, training, recruitment, etc. As a result, these expenditures are not individually itemised or tracked in a manner that would allow for direct comparison of a specific budget versus actual spend for Special Constables.

The only way to compile the requested information would be to carry out a detailed manual review of all financial records across multiple departments and cost centres to determine relevance to special constables. As such, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by email or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by email or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.